

War Department, to witness the proceedings attendant on inspection.

A new military department, formed of Maryland and the District of Columbia, is to be established, with Col. Smith as Commandant and Capt. Talbot as Adjutant. Major Sherman's Artillery from Fort Ridgeley, which was ordered to Newport, been ordered here, and two companies of cavalry are expected to arrive to-morrow, the latter coming without horses, which will be purchased here.

New York, April 11.—Steamer Coatzacoalecos arrived here to-day. Left two companies of infantry at Key West, and brought 400 here.

One thousand troops are still in Texas, and some of them will have to march 700 miles to reach the coast. They were in excellent health, and had abundant supplies and means for transportation.

Two companies of troops, arrived per steamer Coatzacoalecos, have been ordered to Washington, four to Carlisle Barracks, and one to Fort Hamilton, in this harbor.

New York, April 12.—The Herald Washington correspondent says that the men of West Point and the Flying Artillery have received orders to keep their revolvers constantly loaded, so as to be ready for immediate action.

Part of the volunteers are to be stationed at the bridge across the Potomac, so as to defend it from any invading force.

Nearly a thousand men are now enrolled in the regular service from the District Militia. Those who refused to take the oath of allegiance were marched back to the armories, dismissed, and their names stricken from the roll. Hisses from the spectators accompanied their disappearance from the parade ground.

General Cadwallader of the first Brigade of the Pennsylvania Militia has been ordered home immediately by the Governor. The movement is supposed to be in connection with the occupation of the volunteers.

Fort Kearney, April 11.—Orders were received yesterday for two companies of the Second Infantry to march immediately to Fort Leavenworth, leaving only one company of dragoons here.

Later from California.

Fort Kearney, April 9. The Pony Express from San Francisco has arrived.

Arrived at San Francisco 24th, Electra, Sydney; Galveston, New York; 25th, steamer St. Louis, Panama. Sailed 25th, C. E. Foote, Amoor.

The barque Delaware was lost on Ballena's Bar, Lower California, Dec. 25.

The question of the legality of McDougal's election as Senator remains as at last advice. He professes a willingness to stand another election if the committee's report is against him.

A bill has been introduced in the Legislature offering a premium of \$10,000 to the first person growing in California, and completing for market, 100 bales of cotton of 500 pounds each.

The formation of a Territorial Government for Nevada, by Congress, gives great satisfaction in the Washoe district.

Coal Oil Springs are reported to have been found in Humboldt county. The Asphaltum Springs near Los Angeles, are said to yield inexhaustible supplies of oil.

The amount of coal shipped to San Francisco last year from California mines, was about 800 tons, and 80,000 tons were consumed in the State. It is thought the yield of coal from the California mines the present year will be over \$20,000 tons.

Miners were leaving for the Fraser River mines, and three steamers had left New Westminster for Fraser River with good freights.

A French company of miners, with sluices, at Kinka Bar, were making \$10 a day each.

Fort Kearney, April 11.—The Pony Express, with San Francisco dates of the 30th ult., has arrived.

The weather during the week has been inclement and rainy, the roads will be impassable for several days. The rivers in Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys are higher than ever before. Many bridges have been carried away, thousands of acres of cultivated land submerged, fences lost, and stock drowned. Two expensive bridges across the American river were destroyed, and another inundation at Sacramento is apprehended. Several lives have been lost. The damage to property is estimated by hundreds of thousands. The weather is now clear and no further damage is anticipated.

Receipts of dust show a fair average for the season.

POLITICAL TUMULT IN THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.—While the United States are rocked by a tremendous political convulsion, their neighbors of the British Colonies are not exempt from exciting political difficulties, although of a less serious nature. In Canada the Parliamentary hosts are being marshaled on the great question of representation by population, the Orange difficulty, and the affairs of the Grand Trunk Railway, all of which matters will call out bitter partisan warfare. In Nova Scotia an unpopular administration, railroad frauds, and an alleged embezzlement of public moneys by a member of the Assembly, are the fruitful causes of a fierce conflict which has for some time been raging among the legislative solons. In Prince Edward Island a difficulty between the land owners and the tenantry has engendered a serious political strife and led to a change in the system of government. In New Brunswick there has been a change in the rulers and after the formation of a provisional government, the Queen's representative was compelled to dissolve the House of Assembly in consequence of the violence of a mob. In New Brunswick gross official speculation in the public lands has created great public excitement, which finds vent in the press and the legislative assembly. Verily commotion is the order of the day all over the world.—Boston Journal.

The Cabinet at Montgomery has called upon each of the Confederate States for 3000 troops, except Florida, who furnishes 1500. The Commissioners at Washington have announced their intention to return immediately. Recruiting is rapidly going on here.

Montgomery, April 9.—President Davis to-day made a requisition on the Governor of Alabama for 3000 troops.

The Mississippi brigade, 1800 strong, arrived at Pensacola on the 7th.

Three hundred and seventy Georgia troops for Pensacola passed through here yesterday.

There are reported to be 214 organized military companies in Georgia, estimated to comprise 10,700 men; all armed.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE FREEMAN

WASHINGTON, April 11.

The late master of the volunteer militia of the District of Columbia, in the federal service for defense of the city still occasions considerable excitement. Of the force the Germans were loyal to the Government—not one refusing to swear his allegiance. The traitors here are all weeded out.

One of the commissioners of the Southern Confederacy remains here to-day to receive expected dispatches from Jefferson Davis. The city is alive with the movements of troops. A Pennsylvania volunteer regiment is expected.

1 o'clock P. M. A dispatch just received from Charleston says that everything is quiet, —no signal of the expected fleet.

WASHINGTON, April 11.

The Times Washington correspondent says it is understood by good authority, that the Government and Major Anderson will demand an explanation from Gov. Pickens, of the refusal to allow General Talbot to return to Fort Sumter. South Carolina will be held responsible, as it is not the intention of the President to treat with Jefferson Davis or the Confederacy, officially.

The Tribune's dispatch says there are 4000 men known to be enrolled in Baltimore, ready for any desperate design which may promise reward. Means are being taken to break up this pernicious organization.

The Herald's dispatch says the President told a visitor to-night (Wednesday) that decisive events could not be looked for before the last day of this week. He remarked: "We will then see whether they dare fire upon an unarmed vessel sent with provisions for our starving soldiers?" He expressed little hope of the preservation of peace, but evinced a decided determination to relieve Major Anderson, and the other Southern posts, at all hazards.

Dispatches from Montgomery say that Davis is considering the propriety of going to Charleston. Mr. Lincoln says he has positive knowledge of a contemplated attack upon Washington. He has communicated this information to several Governors of the Northern and Western States. It is understood that he desires them to call out the militia, and hold them in readiness to march at a moment's warning.

A leading Ohio Democrat has sent a dispatch to the President, as follows:

"We are for you to the death, if you will hold Fort Sumter. The necessity of holding it is absolute."

CHARLESTON, April 10.

The floating battery is in a position commanding the barbettes guns of Fort Sumter. She carries two 32 pounders, two 42 pounders, and sixty-five men. The Federal Steamers are expected to-night. The city is filled with troops.

WASHINGTON, April 11.

The general excitement occasioned yesterday by calling out the volunteer militia, has abated to-day. Four or five companies marched to the War Department, and took the army oath to serve the United States faithfully against all enemies and opposers. The obligation is for three weeks, unless sooner discharged.

CHARLESTON, April 12.

War is inaugurated. The batteries on Sullivan's and Morris' Islands, and at other points, opened on Fort Sumter at 4 o'clock this morning. Fort Sumter has returned the fire, and a brisk cannonading has been kept up. No information has been received from the seaboard yet.

LATER.—The firing has continued all day uninterrupted. Two of Fort Sumter's guns have become silenced, and it is reported that a breach has been made in the Southeast wall. The answer to Gen. Beauregard's demand by Major Anderson was, that he would surrender when his supplies were exhausted, if he was not reinforced.

STILL LATER.—The firing has ceased for the night, to be resumed at daylight in the morning, unless an attempt is made to reinforce Fort Sumter, to repel which ample arrangements have been made. Only two men were wounded to-day. The Pawnee, Harriet Lane and another Steamer are reported off the bar.

April 13th, 12, 30 A. M.—It is utterly impossible to reinforce Fort Sumter to-night, as a storm is raging.

New York, April 13th.

The Herald's dispatch says the President received the news from Charleston calmly, and with confident feeling that he had done his whole duty. Dispatches from Col. Waite, commander of the Texas forces, states that a strong Union feeling is growing there. Gov. Houston predicts the return of the secessionists to allegiance. They are terribly taxed. Gov. Houston has been offered armed support by the Germans in every part of the State, but refused to accept it.

Senator Sherman, arrived at Washington from Ohio, reports that the Republicans of that State are ready to stand by the Administration to the last.

The opinion prevailed that an attempt would be made before sunrise to run light drail vessels of the fleet up to Fort Sumter, and reinforce and provision it.

WASHINGTON, April 13, 2 P. M.

The news from Charleston created intense excitement in this city. The Cabinet was in session most of the night. Lieut. Talbot gave the Cabinet a distinct idea of the condition of the Fort when he left. The report received last night in regard to the attack, is not believed to be correct in all particulars. He says it would be impossible for Major Anderson to fire all day without more injury and loss of life. The President declared this morning that Major Anderson should be sustained at any cost. A messenger is expected to arrive from Charleston this evening. A proclamation convening Congress and calling out State forces to the aid of the General Government, is expected forthwith from President Lincoln.

The following dispatch is taken from our Extra of Saturday Evening. It should be remembered that this news is from Charleston, and is doubtless greatly exaggerated.

CHARLESTON, April 13th.

Two of Anderson's magazines have exploded. It is thought the magazines which have exploded are small ones. The walls, steeples and every available place is packed with people. The ships are now in the offing too late to come over the bar at this tide as the tide is now ebbing.

CHARLESTON, April 13.

The ships are in the offing, mostly at anchor,

and have not fired a gun. Anderson's barracks are in a sheet of flames. Shells from Cummings Point battery and Fort Moultrie are continually bursting in and over Fort Sumter in quick succession. The flag is still waving over the Fort. Anderson's force seems to be occupied in extinguishing fires. Every shot seems to tell. The striking of Anderson's flag is anxiously looked for.

MONTGOMERY, April 13.

Gen. Beauregard telegraphed to the Secretary of War of the Confederacy late last night as follows: "There was heavy firing all day Friday. Four guns dismantled. The Confederate Batteries are safe, and no one hurt. Four steamers are off the bar. The sea is rough."

The following dispatch has just been received but believed to be false: Fort Sumter has been surrendered, and the Confederate flag now waves over its walls. None of the Government or Confederate troops are injured.

NEW YORK, April 13.

A special dispatch from Montgomery to the Herald, says that Secretary Walker said in his speech last night, "Let them try the Southern Confederacy, and test the strength of the Southern resources and the Confederate flag might eventually wave over Faneuil Hall itself. This is the latest published, but we received later advice saying that Maj. Anderson had hauled down the Stars and Stripes, and hoisted a white flag,—it was answered from the city, and a boat left immediately for the Fort.

Fort Sumter Surrendered!

Major Anderson a Prisoner!

CHARLESTON, April 13.

Fort Sumter has unconditionally surrendered. The news has just come. Ex-Senator Chesnut, Ex-Gov. Manning and W. P. Miles have just landed and marched to Gov. Pickens's residence, followed by a dense crowd, wild with joy. It is reported that ten men of Fort Sumter are killed, and that the Federal flag was shot away by the Palmetto Guard at Morris Island. In all, two thousand shots have been fired. No Carolinians hurt.

Maj. Anderson and his men under guard were conveyed to Morris Island. The bells are ringing out a merry peal, and our people are engaged in every demonstration of joy. It is estimated that there are 9000 men under arms in the island and in the neighborhood. I have seen W. P. Miles, who has just returned from a visit to Fort Sumter, and he assured me that no one was killed at the Fort. This is reliable, and puts to rest all previous reports about Sumter. Maj. Anderson has reached the city, and is the guest of Gen. Beauregard. Our people sympathize with Maj. Anderson, but abhor those who were in the stream of our bar, in sight of our people, and did not even attempt to reinforce him.

The Fairfield regiment—1000 strong—have just passed the Courier office, on their way to Morris Island. There are now 10,000 men under arms in the harbor and on the coast. Judge McGrath, who has just returned, reports that the work and officers' quarters, at Fort Sumter, are all burned. None of the officers were wounded. The Fort will be taken possession of to-night by the Confederate troops.

The following dispatches were received prior to the above:

CHARLESTON, April 13.

The Federal flag was again hoisted over Fort Sumter, when W. P. Miles, with a white flag, went to the Fort. In a few minutes the Federal flag was again hauled down by Maj. Anderson, and a white one unfurled. Gen. Beauregard, with two aids, has left for Fort Sumter. Three fire companies from Charleston are on their way to Sumter to quell the fire before it reaches the magazine.

NEW YORK, April 13.

The Government has chartered the Steamers Philadelphia and Ericsson. The former is rapidly filling with provisions, army stores, munitions, &c. The latter is to be held in reserve for any emergency.

MONTGOMERY, April 13.

Lieut. Reed, warden of the Federal Navy has been taken prisoner of war and has despatches from Lieut. Semler to the Government at Washington. He is alleged to have violated his promise. Fort Pickens was reinforced last night. Great rejoicings in this City about Fort Sumter.

President Lincoln's Reply to the Virginians.

WASHINGTON, April 13.

The following is the reply of President Lincoln to the Virginia Commissioners: To Messrs. Preston, Stark and Randolph: GENTLEMEN:—As a Committee of the Virginia Convention now in session, you present me a preamble and resolution as follows:—

Whereas, in the opinion of this Convention, the uncertainty which prevails in the public mind, as to the policy which the Federal Executive intends to pursue towards the seceded States is extremely injurious to the industrial and commercial interests of the country, and tends to keep up an excitement which is unfavorable to the adjustment of the pending difficulties. Resolved, That a Committee of three delegates be appointed to wait on the President of the United States and present to him this preamble and respectfully ask him to communicate to this Convention the policy which the Federal Executive intends to pursue in regard to the Confederate States.

In answer, I have to say, that having at the beginning of my official term expressed my intended policy as plainly as I was able, it is with deep regret and mortification I now learn there is great and injurious uncertainty in the public mind as to what that policy is, and what course I intend to pursue. Not having as yet occasion to change it, it is my purpose to pursue the course marked out in the Inaugural Address. I commend a careful consideration of the whole document as the best expression I can give to my purposes. As I then and therein said I now repeat: "The power conferred to me will be used to hold, occupy and possess property and places belonging to the Government, and to collect the duties on imports; but beyond what is necessary for these objects there will be no invasion, no using of force against the people anywhere. By the words 'property and places belonging to the Government,' I chiefly allude to the military posts and property which were in possession of the Government when it came into my hands."

But if, as now appears, to be true, in pursuit of a purpose to drive the United States Authority from their places, an unprovoked assault has been made upon Fort Sumter, I shall hold myself at liberty to repossess, if I can, like places which had been seized before the Government was evolved upon me, and in any event I shall to the best of my ability repel force by force. I shall perhaps cause the U. S. mails to be withdrawn from all the States which claim to have seceded, believing that actual war against the government justifies and possibly demands it.

I scarcely need say that I consider the military forts and property, situated within the States which claim to have seceded, as yet belonging to the U. S. Government, as much as they did before the supposed secession. Whatever else I may do for the purpose, I shall not attempt to collect the duties and revenues by any armed invasion of any part of the country, not meaning by this, however, that I may not land a force deemed necessary to relieve a Fort upon the borders of the country. From the fact that I have quoted a part of the Inaugural address, it must not be inferred that I repudiate any other part, the whole of which I reaffirm, except so far as what I now say of the mails may be regarded as a modification.

LANCASTER, Pa., April 13.

The war news created intense excitement here and the Stars and Stripes were displayed in honor of Major Anderson. A call for a military force to sustain the Government was unanimously signed. Volunteers are being enrolled.

PROVIDENCE, April 13th.

The news of the battle at Charleston has produced a general sensation here this morning. The war spirit is almost universal. Governor Sprague has officially tendered to the President the services of the Marine Artillery, and a thousand men, and declares himself willing to march at the head of the Rhode Island forces.

Official Correspondence Preceding Hostilities.

CHARLESTON, April 12.—The following is the telegraphic correspondence between the War Department at Montgomery and General Beauregard, immediately preceding hostilities. The correspondence grew out of the formal notification by the Washington Government, disclosed in Beauregard's first dispatch.

[No. I.]

CHARLESTON, April 8. To L. P. Walker, Secretary of War at Montgomery: An authorized messenger from Mr. Lincoln has just informed Governor Pickens and myself that provisions will be sent to Fort Sumter peaceably, if possible, otherwise by force.

(Signed) G. S. BEAUREGARD.

[No. II.]

MONTGOMERY, April 10. To Gen. G. S. Beauregard, Charleston: If you have no doubt of the authorized character of the agent who communicated to you the intentions of the Washington government to supply Fort Sumter by force, you will at once demand its evacuation; and if this is refused proceed in such a manner as you may determine to reduce it. Answer.

(Signed) L. P. WALKER, Sec. War.

[No. III.]

CHARLESTON, April 10. To L. P. Walker, Secretary of War: The demand will be made to-morrow, at 12.

(Signed) BEAUREGARD.

[No. IV.]

MONTGOMERY, April 10. Gen. Beauregard, Charleston: Unless there are special reasons connected with your condition, it is considered proper that you should make the demand at an early hour.

(Signed) L. P. WALKER, Sec. War.

[No. V.]

CHARLESTON, April 10. To L. P. Walker, Secretary of War: The reasons are special for 12 o'clock.

(Signed) BEAUREGARD.

[No. VI.]

CHARLESTON, April 11. To L. P. Walker, Secretary of War: The demand was sent at two: allowed till six to answer.

(Signed) BEAUREGARD.

[No. VII.]

MONTGOMERY, April 11. To Gen. Beauregard, Charleston: Telegraph reply of Anderson.

(Signed) L. P. WALKER.

[No. VIII.]

CHARLESTON, April 11. L. P. Walker, Secretary of War: Major Anderson replies:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication demanding the evacuation of this fort, and say in reply thereto that it is a demand which I regret to say that my sense of honor and my obligations to my Government prevent my complying with. He also adds: "Probably I will await the first shot, and if you do not batter us to pieces, we will be starved out in a few days." Answer.

(Signed) BEAUREGARD.

[No. IX.]

MONTGOMERY, April 11. To General Beauregard, Charleston: Do not desire needlessly to bombard Sumter. If Major Anderson will state the time at which, as indicated by him, he will evacuate, and agree that in the meantime he will not use his guns against us, unless ours should be employed against Sumter, you are authorized thus to avoid the effusion of blood. If this or its equivalent be refused, reduce the fort as your judgment decides to be the most practicable.

(Signed) L. P. WALKER, Sec. War.

[No. X.]

CHARLESTON, April 12. To L. P. Walker, Secretary of War: He would not consent. I write to-day.

(Signed) BEAUREGARD.

NOTE.—Intercepted dispatches disclose the fact that Lieut. Fox, who had been allowed to visit Major Anderson, on the pledge that his purpose was pacific, employed his opportunity to devise a plan for supplying the Fort by force, and that this plan has been adopted by the Washington Government, and was in progress of execution.

A Montgomery letter of April 1, says the Southern government is actively concentrating men and munition of war at the most important points, for the purpose of being prepared for a systematic defense of Indian frontier.

THE SOUTHERN TARIFF.—A New Orleans dispatch says the tariff of the Confederate States on Northern manufactures is already found to be inconveniently high by Southern merchants, and it will be reduced by the next Congress.

ELECTION AT TRENTON.—Trenton, N. J., April 9.—William R. McKean, Republican, was elected Mayor to-day. On the city and ward tickets the Democrats were generally successful.

Montpelier, April 15th. 4 o'clock P. M. Very Latest by Telegraph!

EXCITEMENT AT WASHINGTON.

75,000 Soldiers Called For!

EXTRA SESSION OF CONGRESS.

VERMONT TO RAISE ONE REGIMENT.

GEN. BEAUREGARD ORDERED TO PENSACOLA!

Attack Apprehended on Fort Pickens.

WASHINGTON, April 15.

The city is excited by rumors that the South Carolina troops have been ordered North. Gen. Scott has had the Stars and Stripes hoisted at the War Department. Massachusetts has been called upon to furnish two regiments of infantry, New Hampshire one, and Vermont one, for immediate service.

WASHINGTON, April 15.

The part of the President's message announcing an extra session of Congress, and calling for 75,000 volunteers, is received here with great favor, especially in view of the large number of men demanded. The Government want all the available militia to defend the Capital against the armies of the South, which are expected to march upon it, but a much greater force will be needed, as the secessionists have many friends. The proclamation of the President dispirits the secessionists.

The Cabinet is a unit upon the policy of the Government, as indicated in the proclamation. Mr. Seward is as firm as Mr. Chase.

A dispatch just received at the White House says that Gen. Beauregard has been ordered to Pensacola. An attack upon Fort Pickens is therefore anticipated.

WASHINGTON, April 14th.

The President's proclamation will be issued to-day, as follows:

WHEREAS, the laws of the United States have been for some time past, and now are, opposed, and the execution thereof, in the States through judicial proceedings, or by the power vested in Marshals under the (present) law (is impossible);

Now therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, in virtue of the power vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws, have thought fit to call forth, and hereby do call forth the Militia in the several States of the Union, to the aggregate number of 75,000,—in order to suppress said combinations, and to cause the laws to be duly executed. The details of this object will be immediately communicated to the State authorities through the War Department. I appeal to all loyal citizens to facilitate and aid this effort to maintain the honor, the integrity and the existence of our national Union and the perpetuity of popular government, and to redress the wrong already enough endured.

I hereby command the persons composing the combinations aforesaid, to disperse and retire peacefully from this date.

Deeming that the present condition of public affairs presents an extraordinary occasion I do hereby, by the power in me vested by the Constitution, convene both Houses of Congress. Senators and Representatives are therefore summoned to assemble at their respective chambers at twelve o'clock, noon, Thursday, the 4th day of July next.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

WM. H. SEWARD, Sec. of State.

The Cabinet was in session all day in the War Department. Offers of volunteers have been received from nearly every Northern State.—The President is acting with Jacksonian firmness. The coming Proclamation is but the initial step of what will follow.

Washington County Court—March Term.

HON. ASAHEL PECK, Chief Judge,
HON. D. P. CARPENTER, Assistant
HON. S. S. KELTON, Judges.

List of Jury Causes Tried.

LYMAN W. WRIGHT vs. MOSES E. HOWARD. Breach of Covenant. Verdict for Plaintiff for \$135.62 damages and costs. Joyce, Billingham and Durant for Plaintiff; Wing and Vail for Defendant.

CYRUS S. HADLEY & WIFE vs. TIMOTHY CROSS. Case against Livery Stable keeper for injury caused by defect in harness. Verdict that defendant was not guilty, and that he recover of plaintiff his costs. Heat-on, Reed and Briggs for Plaintiff; Smith, Redfield and Gleason for Defendant.

Samuel Swift, has been appointed Postmaster at Middlebury.

J. L. C. Cook, Esq., editor of the Bennington Banner, has received the appointment of Postmaster at Bennington.

Philip C. Tucker, a well known lawyer of Vergennes, died on Wednesday afternoon, of dropsy in the chest.

M. O. Heath, Esq., has been appointed Postmaster at Jeffersonville, Vt.

ACCIDENT.—Col. Asa Wentworth, Jr., was quite severely injured on Monday afternoon last.

The Tribune says that Mr. Barrett of the Cincinnati Gazette, has been appointed Commissioner of Pensions.

COTTON FROM THE SOUTH.—Within three days last week eighteen thousand bales of cotton have passed through Buffalo en route for Boston. The cost for transportation per bale from Memphis to Boston is \$4.40. This is cheaper than it can be shipped via New Orleans, and the difference in time is about thirty days in favor of the Northern route.

GRASSHOPPERS IN MARCH.—Capt Wm. C. Arnold of this place showed us on Saturday, a great curiosity at this season. It was nothing short of three or four live grasshoppers which he caught at his place hopping about upon the snow. They were as lively as crickets and he says there are plenty more of them where these came from. Query: Will not the grasshoppers be a burden to the farming community this season?—Caledonian.